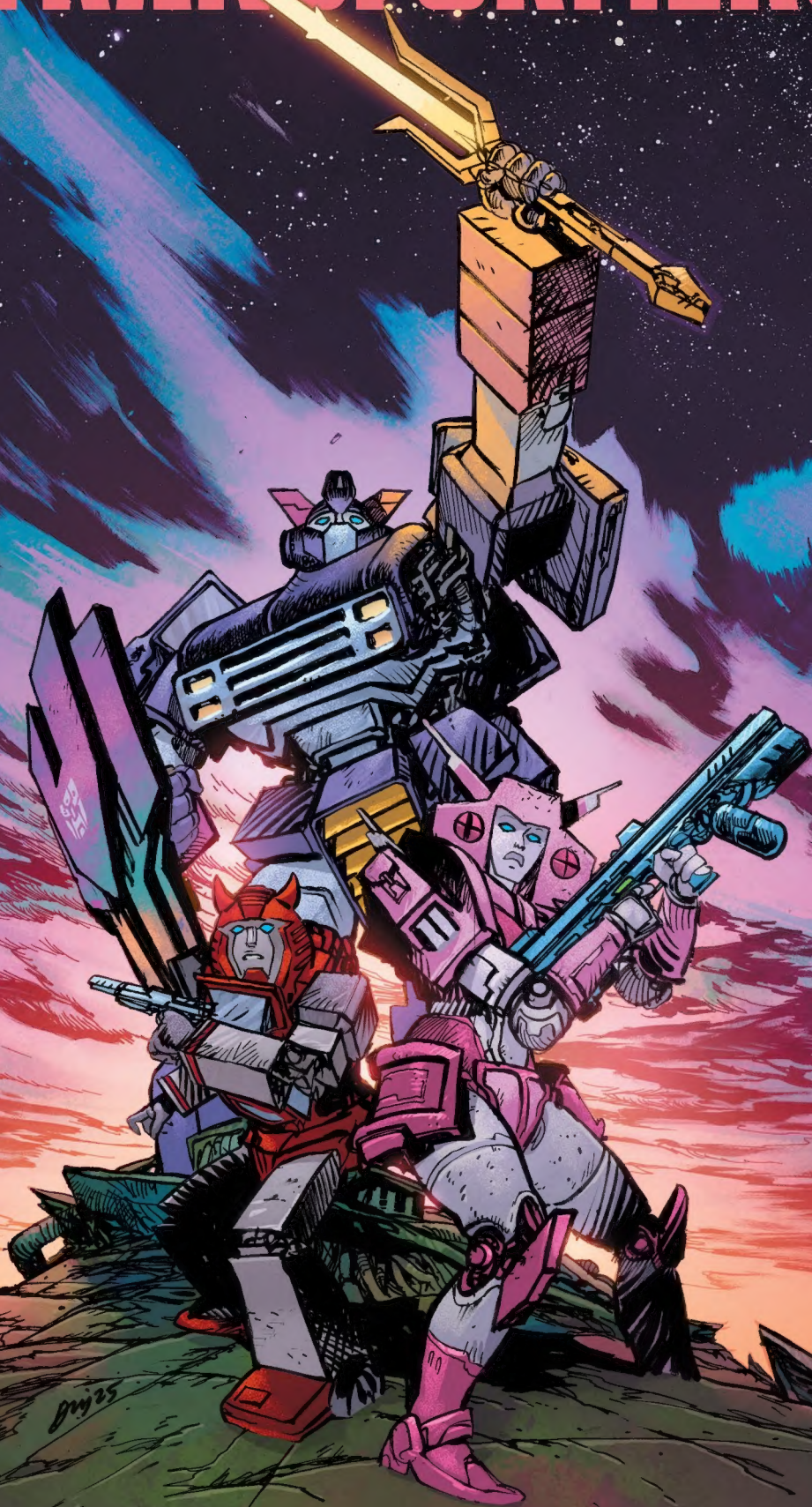


DANIEL WARREN JOHNSON JORGE CORONA MIKE SPICER

TRANSFORMERS

image

#21



ENERGON UNIVERSE

TRANSFORMERS

ISSUE TWENTY-ONE

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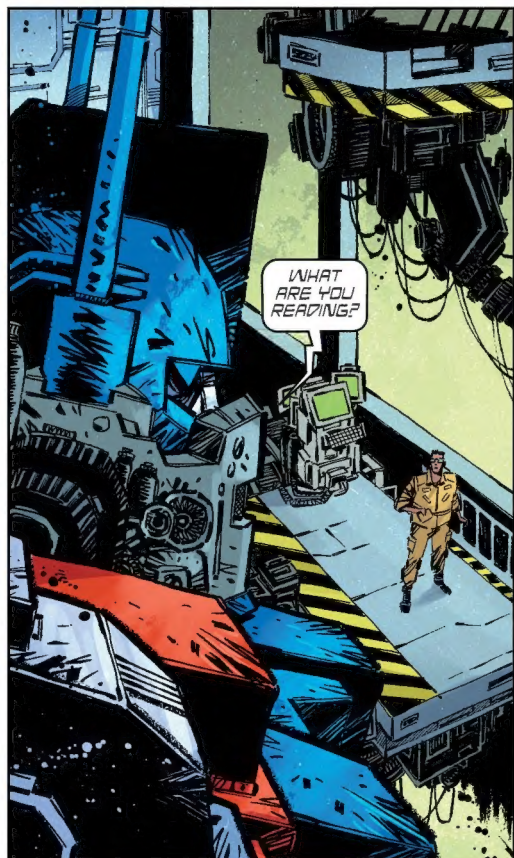
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GENERAL FLAGG, WHAT IS IT YOU'RE DOING? WHAT IS THIS THING?



A QUESTION WAY ABOVE YOUR PAY GRADE, DOC. WE READY, CAPARZO?

ALL SET.



PLEASE... PLEASE DON'T--



WAIT. THIS BEING--HE'S A PRISONER OF WAR. YOU CAN'T--

DOC, LOOK YOU WERE POSTED HERE AS A BREAK FROM THE FRONT AFTER YOUR...EXPERIENCES. GLORIFIED GUARD DUTY.

NOW, IF YOU DON'T WANT TO WATCH, I UNDERSTAND.



BUT PLEASE GET OUT OF THE WAY WHILE WE CONDUCT THE NECESSARY BUSINESS OF KEEPING THIS COUNTRY SAFE.

PLEASE! STOP! PLEASE!--~GHHKKKK~

CYBERTRON.

HOW ARE
WE DOING,
BLUESTREAK?

ALMOST
THERE,
BOSS.

IT TICKLES ME
RUSTY TO THINK
WE'RE USING
SHOCKWAVE'S
TECH FOR
AUTOBOT GAIN.

WE DO HAVE
A PROBLEM,
THOUGH.

WHAT'S
THAT?

THE PORTAL THE DECEPTICONS USED ON EARTH TO
LINK THE TWO TOGETHER...IT'S SCATTERED ACROSS
WHAT LOOKS TO BE A BODY OF WATER. THAT
MEANS WE NEED QUADRUPLE THE ENERGON TO
HELP PIECE OUR TELEPORTED SELVES TOGETHER
ONCE WE GET TO THE OTHER SIDE.

LET ME
GUESS. WE
DON'T HAVE
ENOUGH.

WE CAN'T ALL
GO GET OPTIMUS
LIKE YOU HOPED.
THERE'S ONLY
ENOUGH ENERGON
TO SEND ONE OF
US BACK.

ALL
RIGHT
THEN.



"I KNOW WHO
WILL DO."

THAT'S
WHAT SHE
LOOKS
LIKE?



SHE
DOES LOOK
FRAGILE.

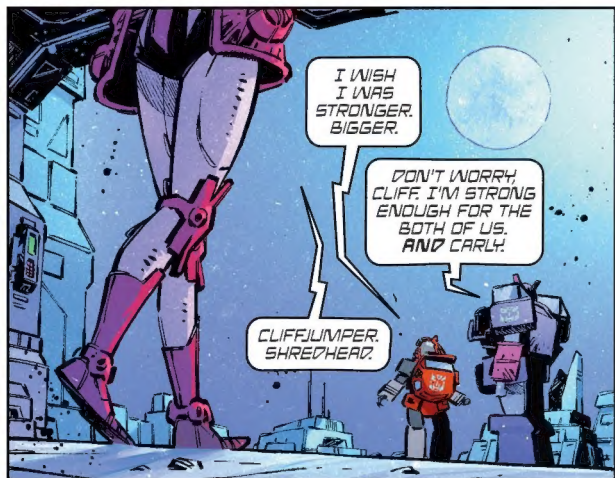
WELL, YES...
CARLY'S
SMALL.



JUST
LIKE
ME.



I'M ONE OF THE
SMALLEST AUTOBOTS
THERE IS, BUT SHE
MADE ME REALIZE
HOW BIG I REALLY
AM. HOW BIG...
EVERYTHING IS.



I WISH
I WAS
STRONGER.
BIGGER.

DON'T WORRY,
CLIFF. I'M STRONG
ENOUGH FOR THE
BOTH OF US.
AND CARLY.

CLIFFJUMPER.
SHREDHEAD.



I NEED TO
SHOW YOU
SOMETHING.



MY LORD,
WHAT IS
YOUR
PLAN?

YOU HAVE DONE
SO WELL, SOUNDWAVE.
EVEN WITH OUR USURPING
STARSCREAM, YOU HAVE
KEPT THE AUTOBOTS ON
THEIR BACK FEET. THEY
ARE DEFENSELESS.



THE ARK IS A
SIGNIFICANT
ADDITION TO THE
AUTOBOTS' POWER.
MEGATRON! EVEN
I KNOW THAT!

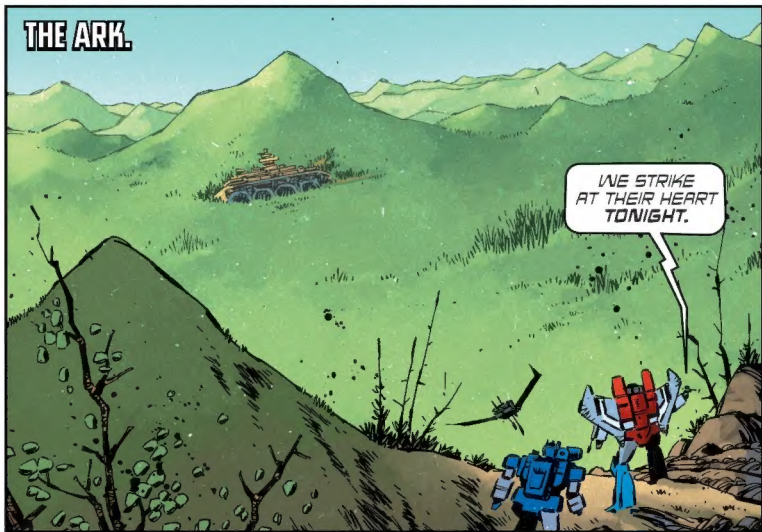
SLAR!



KEEP YOUR PATHETIC COMMENTS
TO YOURSELF, OR I SHALL
REPLACE YOUR MOUTH WITH A
METAL PLATE! YOUR ONLY USE
IS TO BE THE VESSEL FOR
MY VIOLENT PLANS!

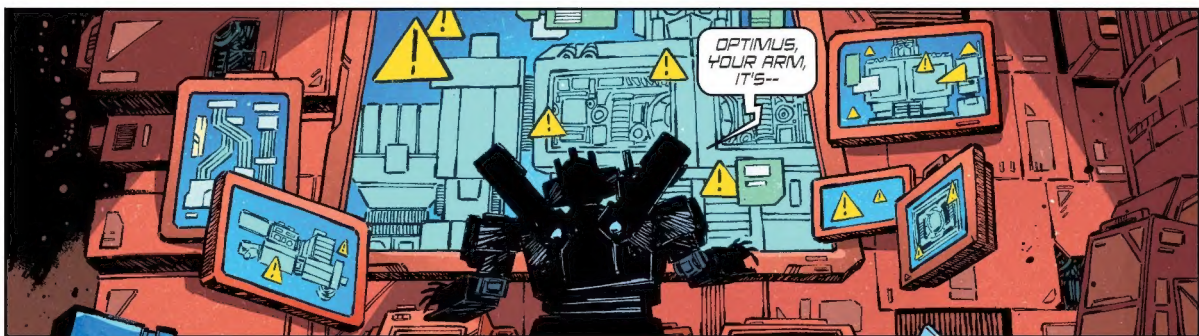
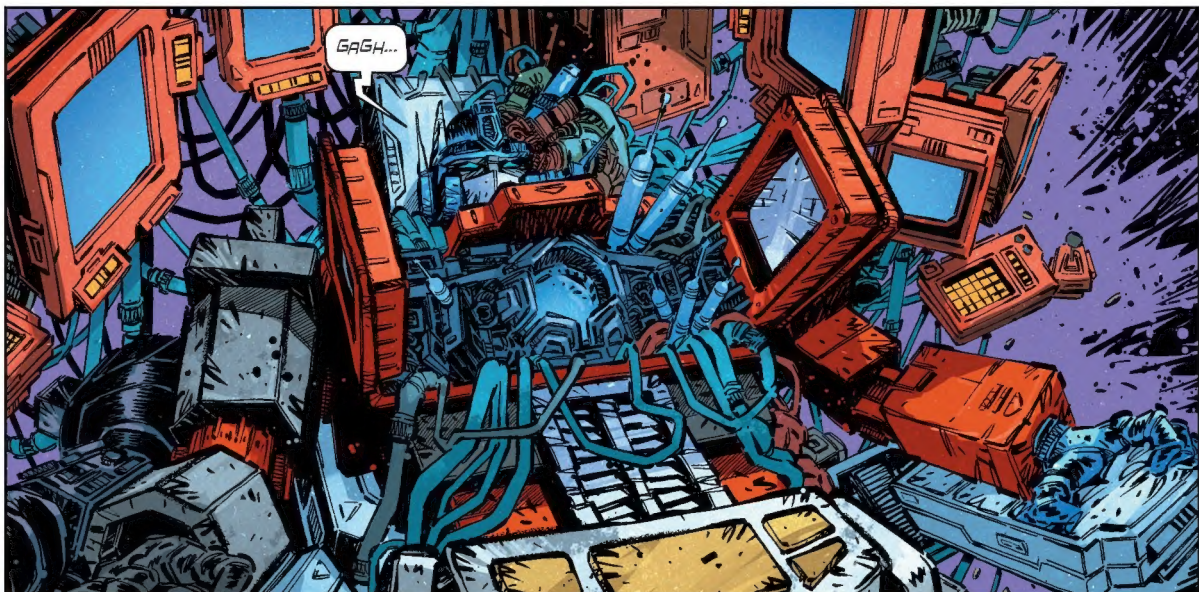


WE HAVE THE NUMBERS.
WE HAVE THE INITIATIVE.
ANY OTHER WAY WOULD
SIMPLY BE PUSHING OFF
THE INEVITABLE.



THE ARK.

WE STRIKE
AT THEIR HEART
TONIGHT.



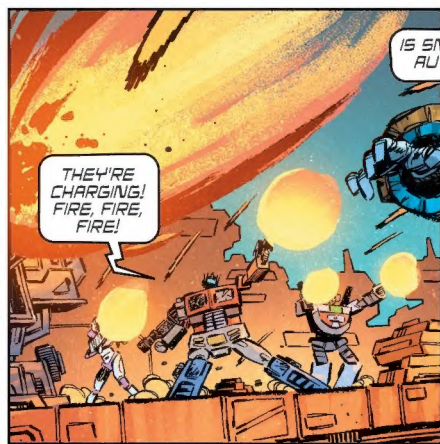




BRUTICUS,
DEVASTATOR,
NOW!!!

THE ONLY
THING BETTER
THAN SMASHING
DEVASTATOR...

BOM BOM



THEY'RE
CHARGING!
FIRE, FIRE,
FIRE!



IS SMASHING
AUTOB--!!!

HAHA!
WHAT AN
IDIOT!

BLOOM



WHO ARE
YOU CALLING
IDIOT?!!

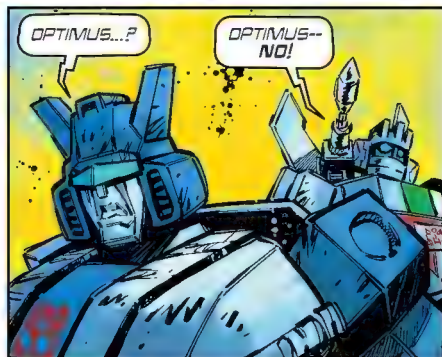
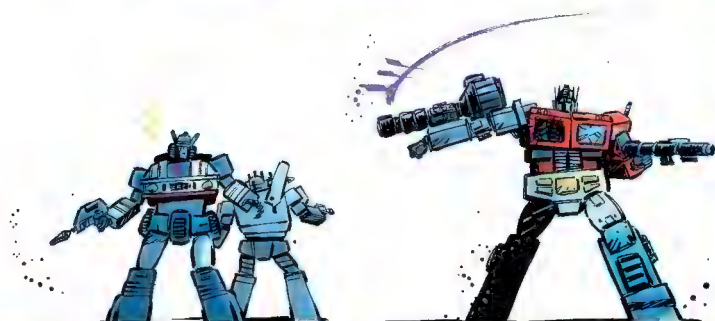
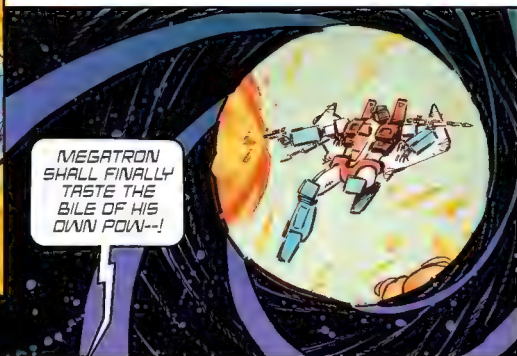
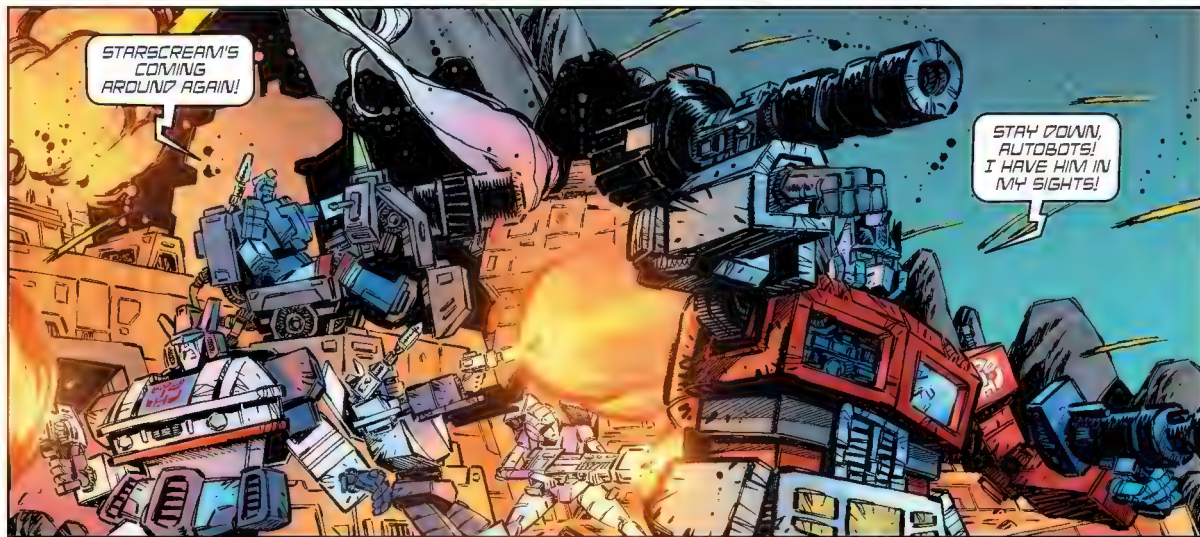
BRUTICUS!
DEVASTATOR!
FOCUS ON THE
BATTLE AT
HAND!

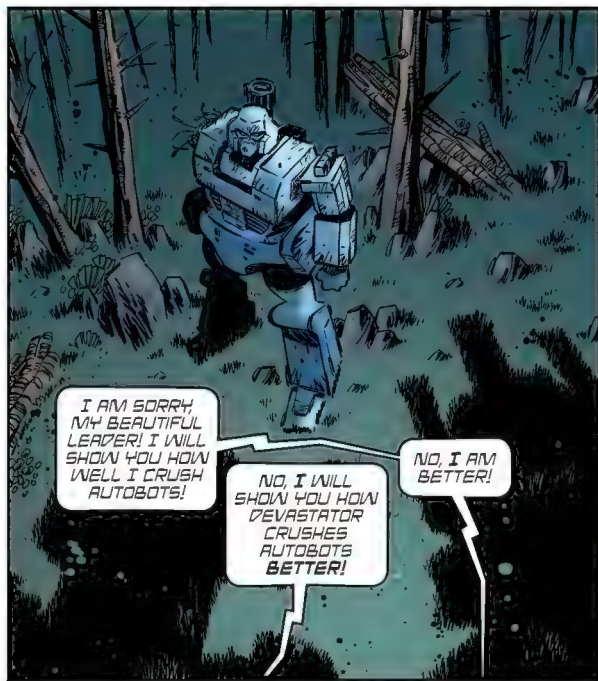
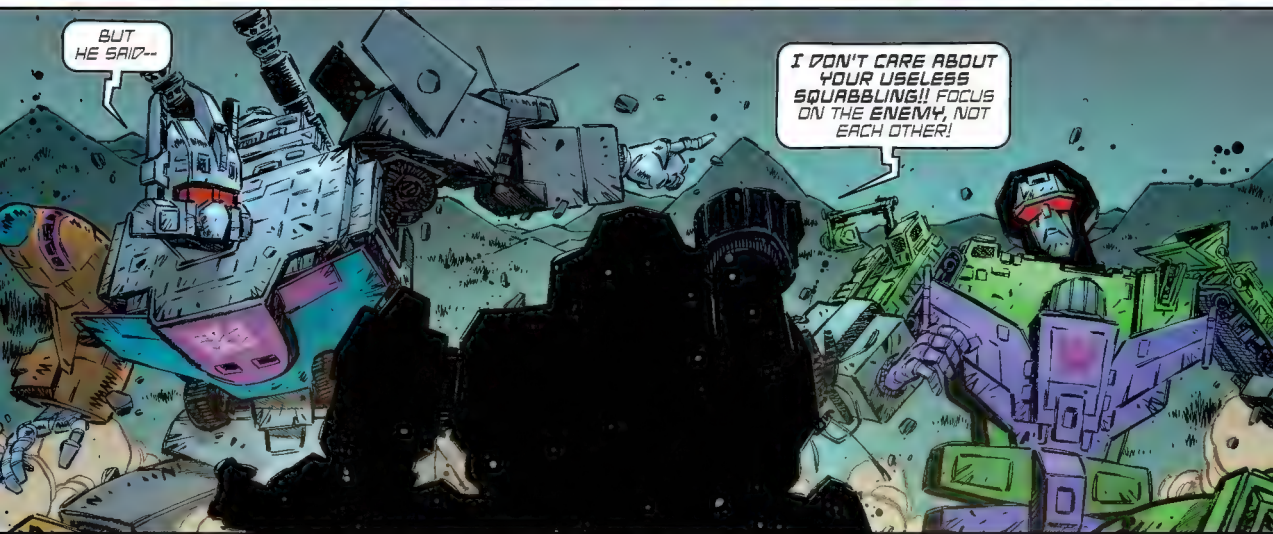
DEVASTATOR
THINKS THEY'RE
SO SMART!

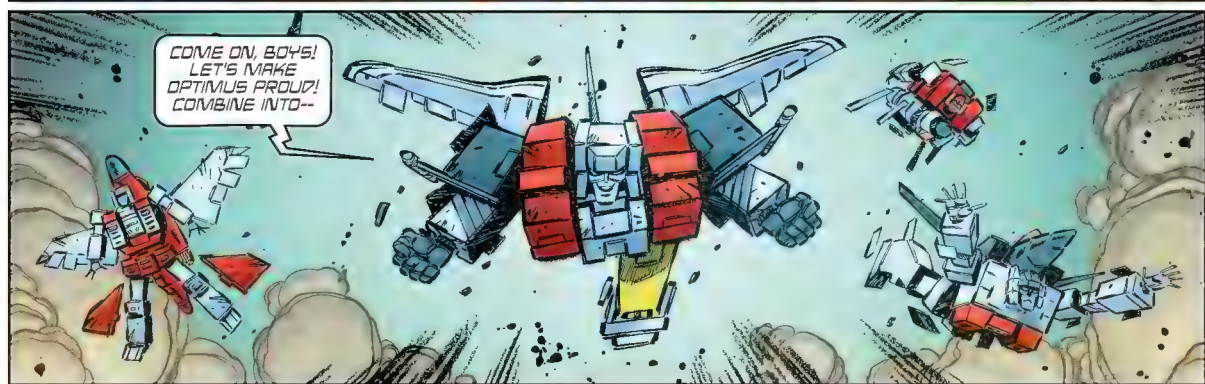
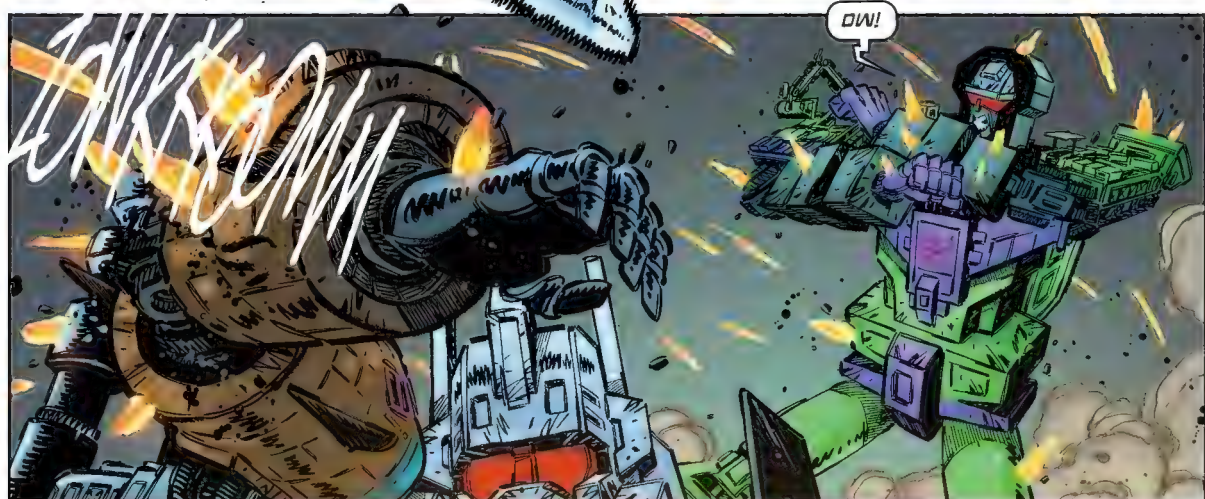


BRUTICUS
WILL TEACH
DEVASTATOR
A NEW
LESSON!!!

BLOOMMM







SUPERION!





JAZZ...

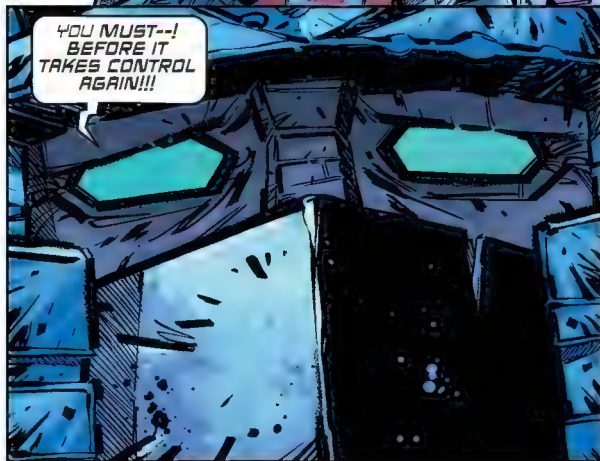
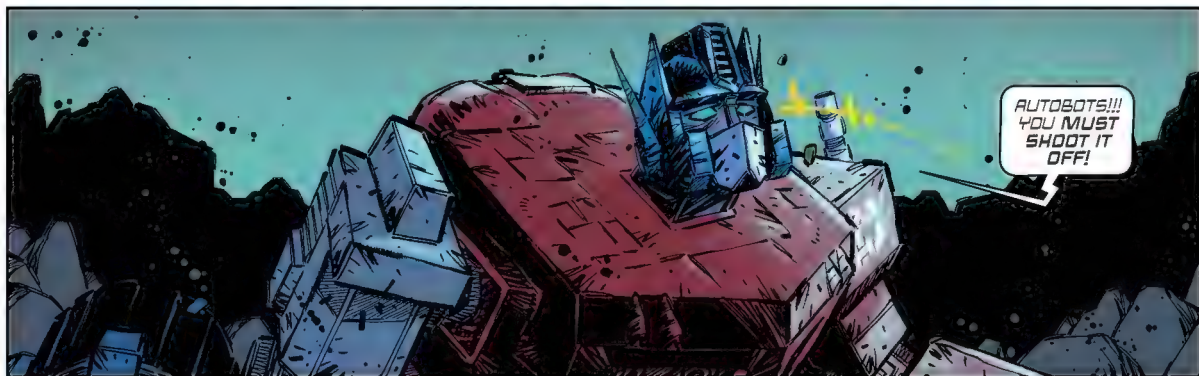
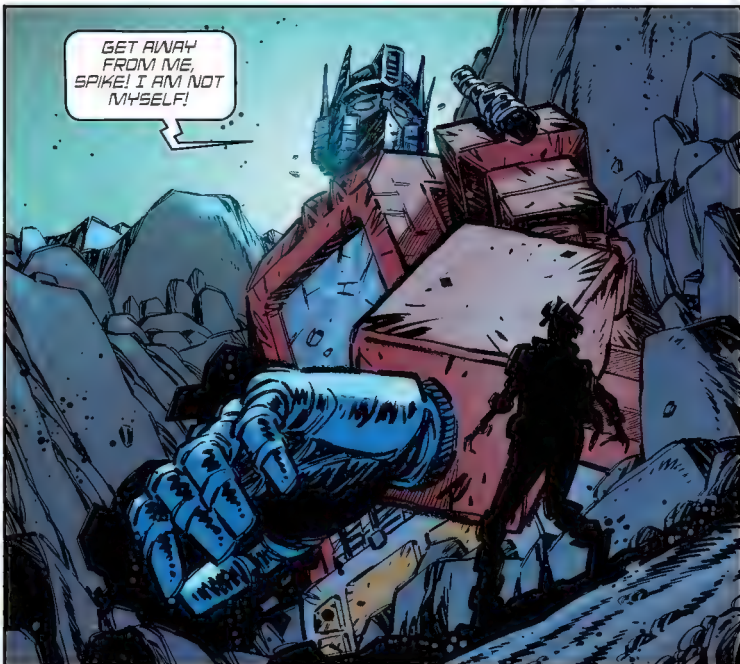
THIS
ARRIV--
IT MUST
GO!

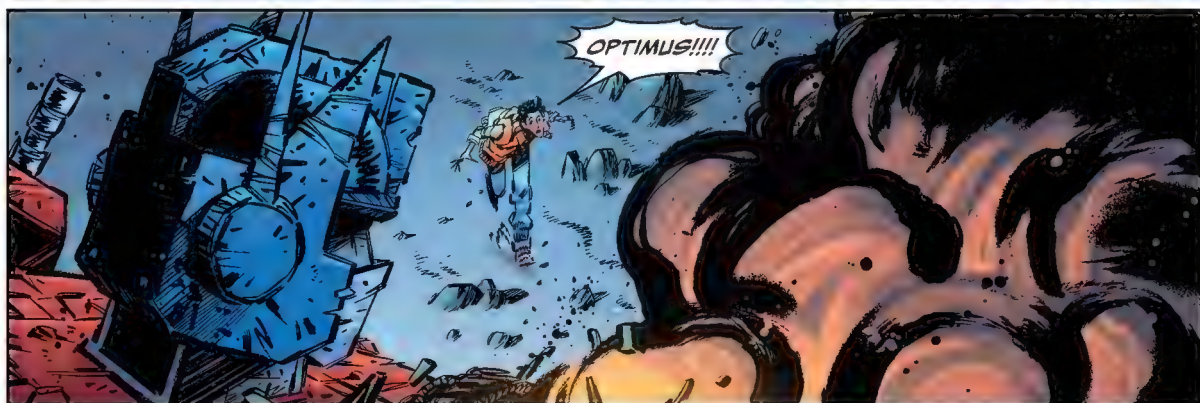
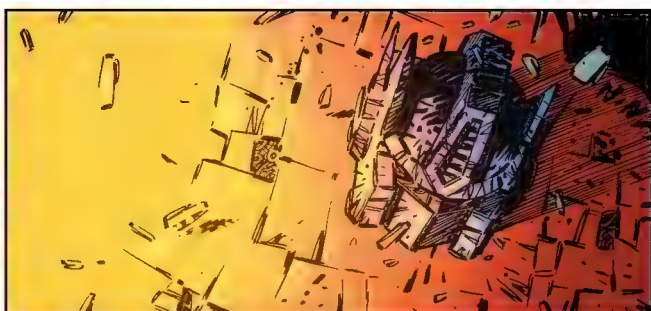
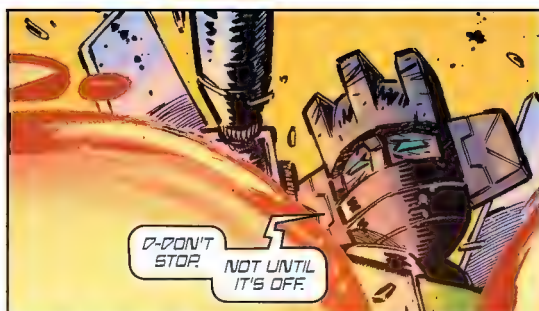


IT'S INFECTING
MY THOUGHTS!
MY ACTIONS!
ACTIONS AGAINST
THOSE I CARE
FOR MOST!



GRAHHHH!
IT WON'T
COME OFF!!!





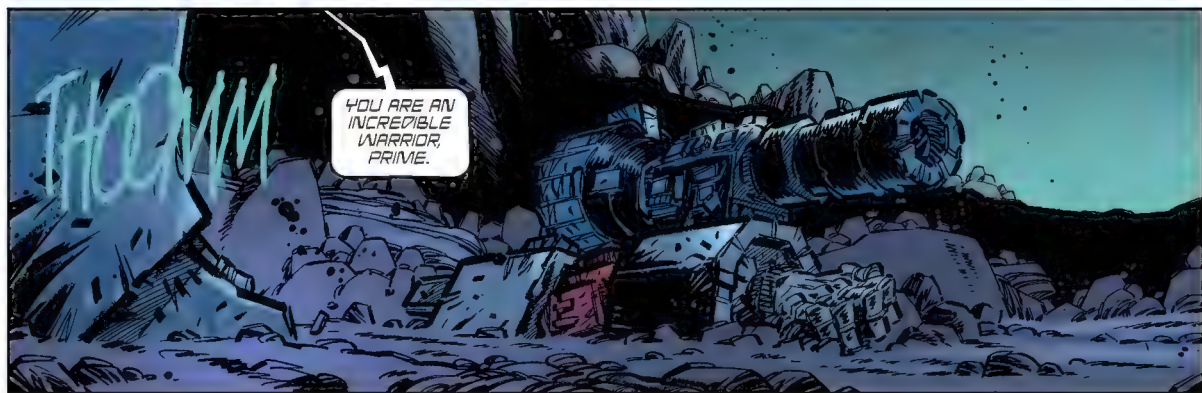
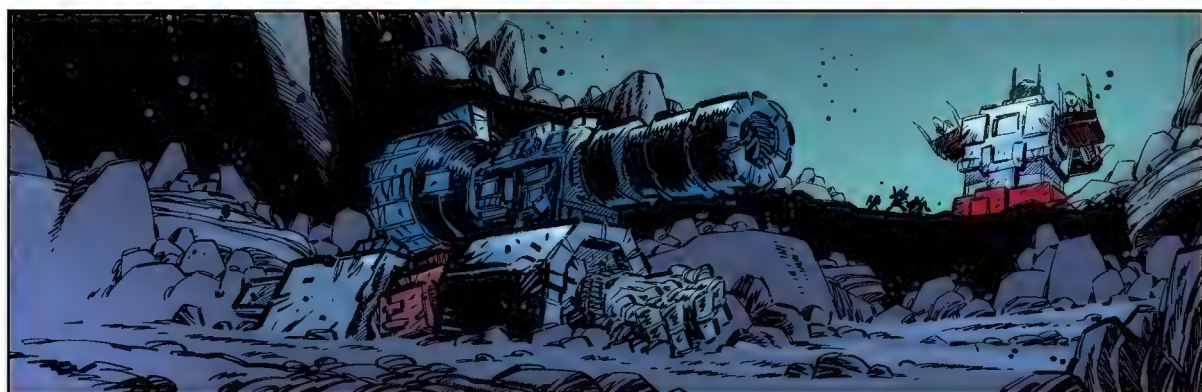


CAN YOU
TURN INTO
YOUR
ALT-MODE?

I'LL
TRY--

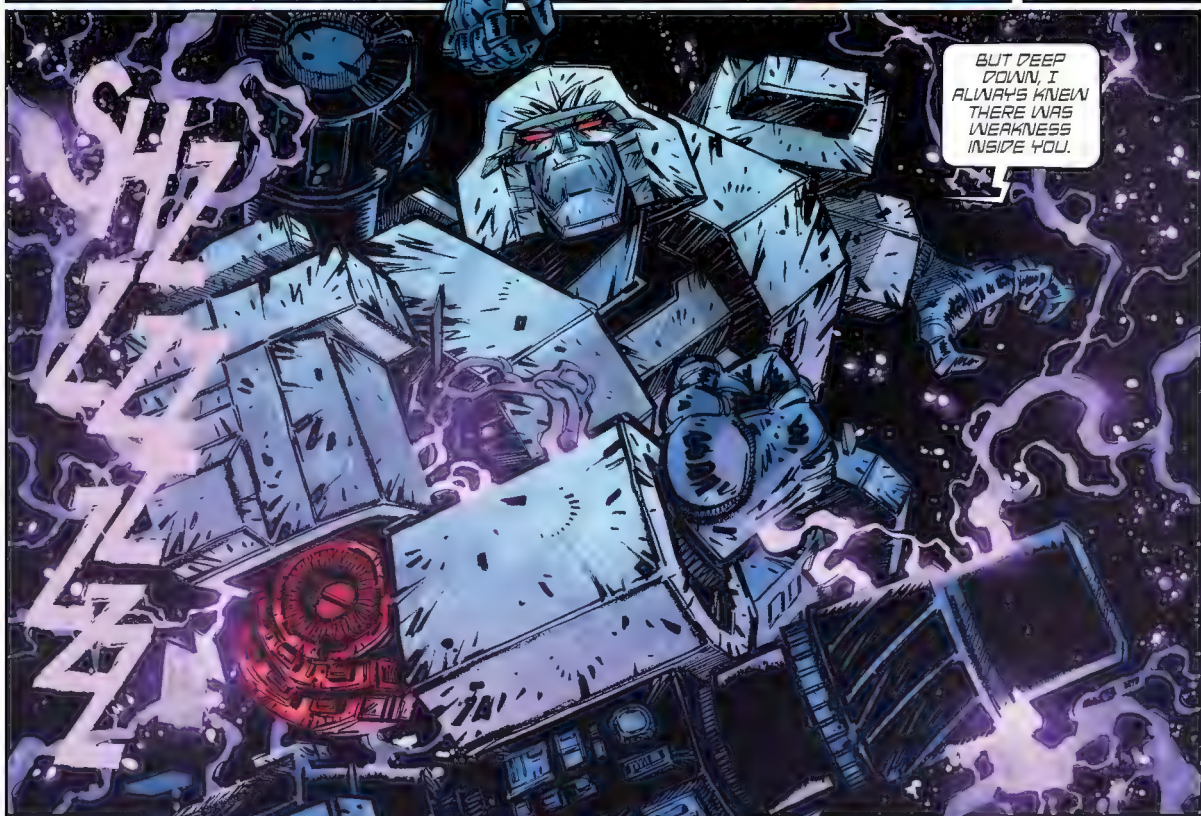


NO
TIME.



THOUM

YOU ARE AN
INCREIBLE
WARRIOR,
PRIME.



BUT DEEP
DOWN, I
ALWAYS KNEW
THERE WAS
WEAKNESS
INSIDE YOU.



STARSCREAM.

TAKE AIM.

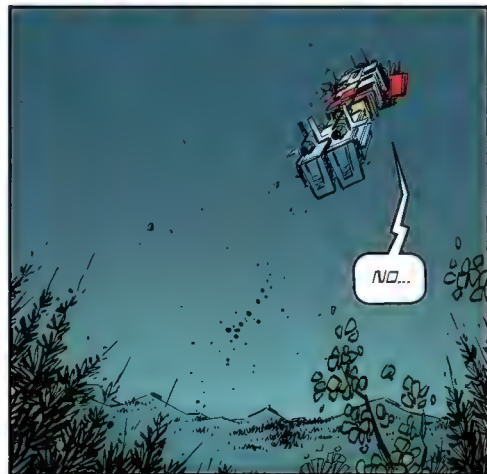
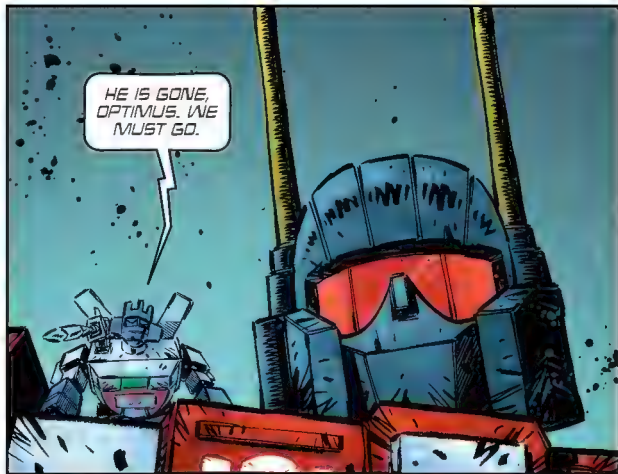
QUICKLY, MY FRIENDS. JUMP ON MY BACK. I WILL FLY US TO SAFETY--

WHAT'S THAT--?

GYAHHHH!!!

AGHHH!

KOON



KK-KRUNCH



THE MATRIX OF

SEND LETTERS TO
TRANSFORMERS@SKYBOUND.COM

LETTERSHP

Daaaang, what another insane issue! Can the Autobots EVER catch a break?! Editor Ben Abernathy once again bringing you the Matrix of Readership and I'm again joined by the Man with the Plan, Daniel Warren Johnson!

Short answer, Ben, is NO, the Autobots can never get a break! Come on! (For Whom the Bell Tolls is playing in the background right now.) But also, I DO indeed have a plan! Read on, my friends!



Hello TF team,

I've been a big fan of Transformers and an even bigger fan of comics for most of my life (trying to create my own) but I've never sent in a letter

Well, why not, I just wanted to say I love the series, when it comes out I collect my pull list from my LCS. DWJ has been crafting an amazing saga over the past 19 issues and it's hard to think we're coming to the end of his run, which of course would not have been possible without the slew of talented artists and letters who work on this book. A few questions I have are when will we know who the new writer taking over the book is and with the introduction of Shredhead will we get an original Decepticons character...it'd be pretty sweet

Thanks for thanking the time to read my letter

Regards from Ireland,
Jonathon Gibson

Welcome first time letter writer, Jonathon! To be continued on your first question and I think we can count Genvo as the first Decepticon, right?!

That's correct, Ben! Genvo is the first Decepticon made for the Skybound Energon Universe, designed by none other than the great Jason Howard. I'm sure there will be more Decepticons in the future, but I don't think that will happen during the course of the rest of my time on this series.



Hello from Florida!

This comic is just a masterpiece, the art is just fantastic and has me filled with inspiration. I'm getting my degree in animation and art and just hours before reading the newest issue I got accepted to FIU!!! (My dream school)

I'm currently an animator and I just adore all the Transformers shows and movies (even if it's dated or scuffed or 'of it's time') and their unique styles of animation. But these damn comics are making me curious about being a comic artist. I never thought about it before 'till I started reading

comics more and I NEED to do more research on it. Maybe it's not for me but it's such an amazing media

Forever fan
- Cyn

Congratulations on getting into FIU, Cyn, that's amazing! I think the comic industry is worth researching...it's pretty close to creating magic!

Thanks, Cyn! Making comics, for me, has all the benefits of being creative with drawing and storytelling without the need of a studio and money behind me. There is complete freedom. So, as you move forward in your animation career, I encourage you to explore, even if just in your spare time, designing and writing and making your OWN stories that you can be excited about. Congrats to you and GOOD LUCK!



Hello!

Honestly, the Energon Universe has been such a joy to read, especially since it brought my interest into Transformers again (I even made a custom statue of the "What do you think about going on the offensive?" Optimus panel). I've never felt this interest in a comic before, so congrats to all of the team and their amazing work.

I do have three or four questions, really simple stuff to be honest (one is related to #19)

1. Will we get a clue by the end of the 4th arc of how Dezimir's master was?

CANNOT SAY, SORRY!

2. Will we see more G1 season 1 characters like Mirage, Prowl (mainly asking cuz we did see earlier on the 1st arc police cars with his alt mode), Ironhide, etc.

I'm SURE we will, however for now, the cast is pretty set. More to come in issue 25...

3. I'm pretty sure it's been asked countless times before, but will we see Defensor soon? Since Blades already appeared and all that

No plans for me to include him, simply because we already have so many Combiners. That being said, I love Defensor!

4. Did Optimus still go from Orion Pax to, well, Optimus Prime? Cuz Jetfire mentioned in #1 too that he didn't know he'd become the Prime now, but still referred to him by Optimus, so I've had that doubt since then

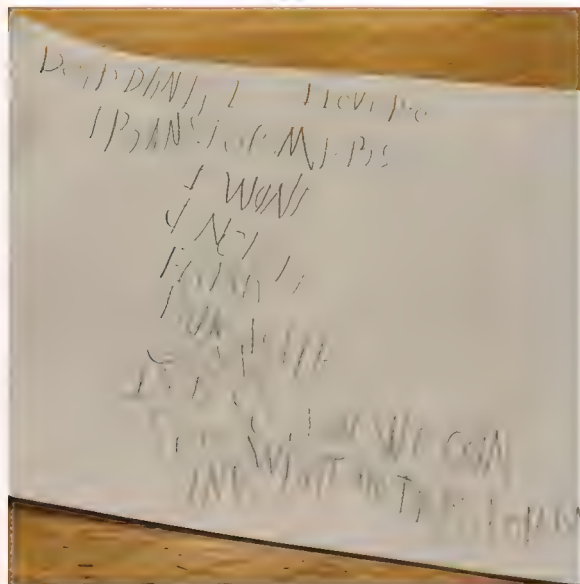
Optimus definitely didn't have the Matrix at the start of his spark coming into being, but that's all I can say about that!

But yea, that's all, love the work the whole team is doing, and hope the end of the 4th

03: Grimlock? Aerialbots? Jetfire?

Miguel

Thank you so much, Miguel!



Bah-weep-Graaaaagnah wheep ni ni bong,
Transformers Skybound Team!

I've been practically OBSESSED with the Transformers franchise, since I was--8? 9?

(No clue - _(:/)_/.)

This comic is freaking awesome!! It's a dream to read. I swear, everyone working on this comic is a certified GENIUS: from Corona's (frankly museum worthy) art, to Spicer (and Stern's) coloring, and DWJ's GOAT'ED writing, I'm blown away by nearly every issue!! The Transformers is by far, my favorite ongoing right now. This comic couldn't be more PEAK (unless you introduce Grimlock).

Okay, the time of well-earned praise is over
The time for questions has begun:

Q1: Is Prime being influenced by Megatron's arm or Spike (or perhaps a mix of both)? Does he just need therapy?

I think you'll know the answer after reading this issue...

Q2: Will Hasbro ever make a Shredhead toy (or Lambo Arcee)??? (I NEED ONE, my wallet does NOT, but yet, my heart pleads.)

Fingers crossed!

After #20 you have two of the three!

ME LOVE GRIMLOCK!

-Owen

Thanks for the love, Owen! The whole team works their butts off every month to deliver the best book possible!

It's true, we do! Thanks so much Owen!



I am just floored over and over again by the stellar writing, characterization, and artwork of this series. I'm pretty new to the Transformers fanbase (nor do I regularly read comics, like...at all) and haven't gotten excited about something like this for a long, long while. Before the latest issue (#18), I was seriously wondering when the military was going to show their faces in the midst of all the carnage! Through it all, the gentleness and internal conflict within the Autobots and even select Decepticons is seriously riveting. I love the direction you are taking these characters, and I'm so eagerly awaiting the next issue.

Question--was the lineart style inspired by Bill Watterson's work? The ink splats, color schemes, and high-contrast shadows really call to mind the full-color Spaceman Spiff Sunday comics.

-Sunny

That's a great question, Sunny, so I decided to ask the maestro himself, Jorge Corona. He notes:

WISSE 2.0 is a stage-free by construction system. I shall consider two more partial ordering forms in this work (and my next one), counting from 00. It has no less than some of the characteristics of WISSE 1.0, but notably lacks the combinatorial explosion problem. I will discuss these features, together with some of the underlying logic, in section 4.

I will also add that Jorge's lines have been inspirational to myself. There's a devil may care boldness to his lines that makes me want to draw, and I can't think of a better compliment to give someone than that. Thanks, Jorge!



And thank YOU, my friends, for staying on this wild ride with us. I know my time here is coming to an end, but it's not over yet! There's more mayhem and wrestling moves to come, hopefully with some good outcomes for the Autobots as well! But no promises!

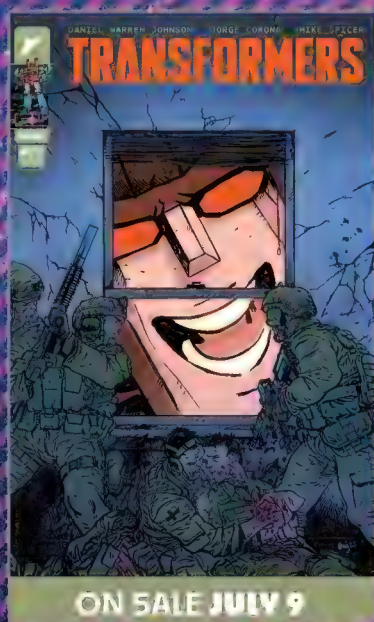
-DWJ

Thanks, everyone! Keep the letters rolling!
Also, as an EXTRA treat, please check out
the preview of Ludo Lullabi's new series,
GHOST PEPPER...if you loved his work on
TRANSFORMERS #19 then this book was MADE FOR
YOU!

-Ben

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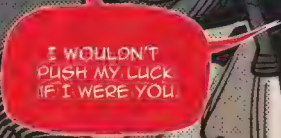
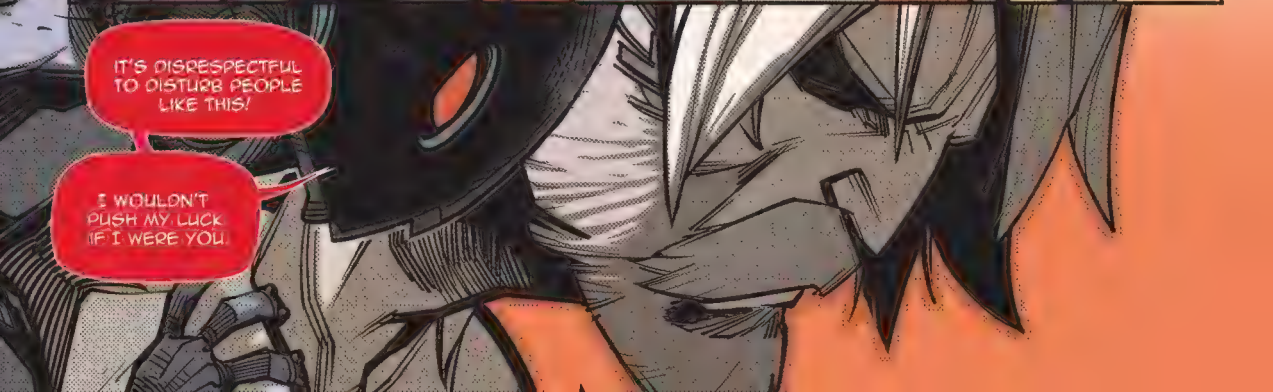
For fans of *Battle Chasers* and *The Moon Is Following Us*, the Must Read Action Epic
from **LUDO LULLABI** and **ADRIANO LUCAS**

GHOST PEPPER

AVAILABLE JULY 2025

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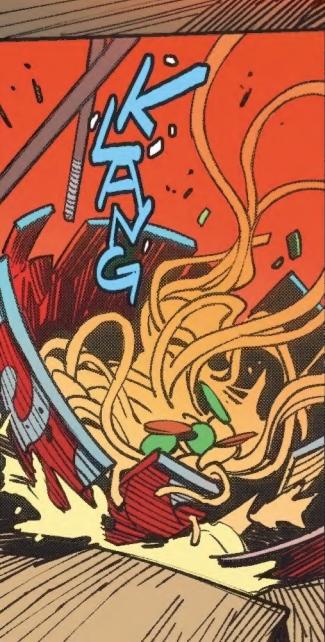




YOU HAVE BEEN WARNED!

ZAAAAA!!!

BROOM!!

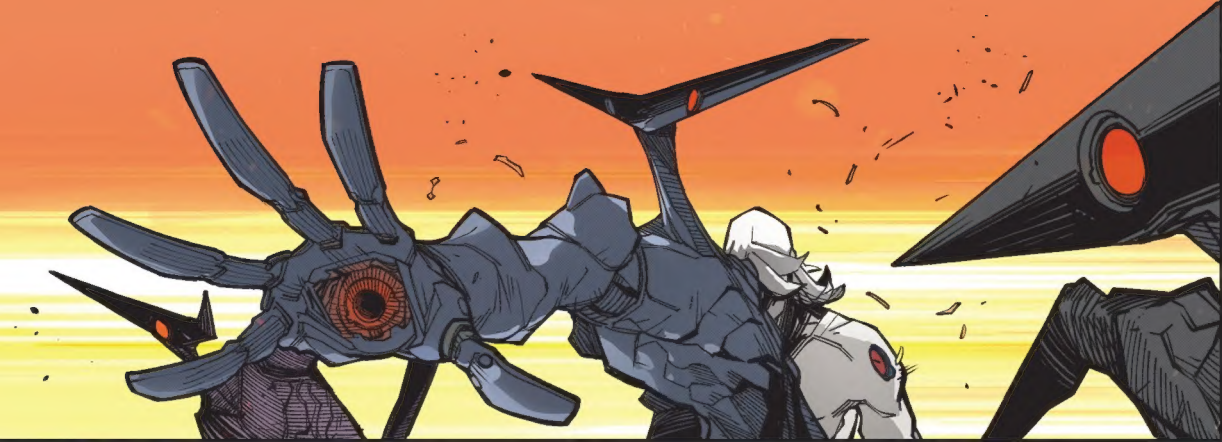


OH MY GOD!

THAT GUY WAS
COMPLETELY...

DISINTEGRATED...

?!



TO BE CONTINUED IN
GHOST PEPPER #1

COLLECT ALL THESE EXCITING ENERGON UNIVERSE COVERS



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